duction coupled with heavy overheads.

The main reasons for BGML's incurring losses is the declining levels of production as indicated in part (b> above attributable to declining grade of ore resulting in a widening gap between costs and the price paid and not the pricing policy which, in fact, had enabled them to reduce losses and even realise profits in the years 1979-80 and 1980-81 despite adverse cost and production trends. Even at the current domestic Indian price of about Rs. 2100/- for 10 grams, BGML's cost of production would not have been covered in 1984-85 and the Company could not have avoided loss.

(d) To intensify the gold explora tion in the country, a time bound programme for gold exploration has been launched by the GSI and MECL. Based on the GSI investigations, extension of Kolar Gold Fields have been located in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. However, they are not so rich in gold to be compared to KGF.

Closing down of public sector units which are not economically viable

721. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to close down the losing public sector units which are not economically viable;

(b) whether any decision has been taken in the matter; if so, what are the details thereof stating the accumulated loss incurred by these public sector units; and

(c) what is the estimated number of employees likely to be rendered unemployed as a result thereof and the manner in which they are proposed to be rehabilitated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRl JANARDHAN POOJARI); (a) and (b) The Government have not taken any such policy decision.

(c) In view of (a) and (b), will not arise.

Trade with the United States

722. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister cf COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trade with the United States of America i_s at present confined to textiles and garments; and

(b) if so, what fresh step Government have taken to increase trade prospects with the United States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Besides textiles and garments, other major items of exports from India to USA are crude petroleum and petroleum products, diamonds, marine products, cashewnuts, leather and leather manufactures, engineering products, crude animal and vegetable material and carpets and rugs.

In addition to usual export promotional activities a special programme of export promotion and commercial puhlicity is being drawn up for implementation in the near future covering all products where there is prospect of increasing exports.

Singareni Collieries Limited

723. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY:
SHRl S. W. DHABE;

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased t_0 state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to withdraw from

the Joint Sector Singareni Collieries Limited in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) how much investment Coal India Limned or Department of Coal has made in these collieries?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To:ai investment (Loan plus equity) by the Central Government as on 31-3-1985 in Singareni Collieries Company Limited was Rs. 335.90 crores excluding re-payment made during 1984-85.

Trade prospects with Mauritius

724. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a FICCI delegation that visited Mauritius in the last week of June, 1985, trade prospects with that country are quite good; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to increase trade with Mauritius?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In consultation with various Ministues/Oragnisations, several measures such as providing credit support, improving shipping services, exchanging delegations, etc. are contemplated to promote trade with Mauritius.

Economic assistance from Aid India Consortium

725. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether I«dia wi'l ,get $ 4 billion in economic assistance from the 14 member Aid India Consortium led by the World Bank during 1985-86; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Tentative indications of economic assistance of about $ 4 billion for the year 1985-86 were given by the mem'bers of the Consortium including the World Bank at the Aid India Consortium meeting held at Paris on June 18 and 19, 1985 subject to necessary approvals under their respective laws and regulations.

Utilisation of World Bank assistance by Madhya Pradesh Government

726. SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHAWAHA:

SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a faci that the Madhya Pradesh Government have failed to utilise the World Bank assistance for the Bank »ided projects in the State;

(ib) if -o, what are the de.ails thereof stating the extent of the assistance utilised by the Madhya Pradesh Government as against the stipulated World Bank assistance till March, 1985 and ihe reasons for poor utilisation of the World Bank assistance, and

(c) what will be its likely effect on the prospects of securing further assistance for the projects in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI); (a) and (b) A list of World Bank assisted projects in Madhya Pradesh and their brief details as on March 1985 is annexed. There has 'been some slippage in the utilisation of loan/credit in some of them. Every effort is being made to see that the entire amount is utilised before the date of closure of the loans/credits.

(c) The prospects of securing further assistance for projects is not going to be effected.